(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



1 (CELT EXISTE N CONTENTE DE CONTENTE

(43) International Publication Date 2 June 2005 (02.06.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/050202 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

. . .

G01N 33/53

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2004/004781

(22) International Filing Date:

12 November 2004 (12.11.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

0326778.8

18 November 2003 (18.11.2003) GB

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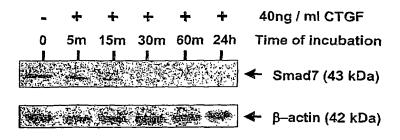
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

 without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS AND USES THEREOF



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a method for identifying and/or making compounds for use in reducing and/or preventing fibrosis, comprising the steps: providing a cell type capable of expressing TIEG and/or Smad-7; providing a test compound; providing an amount of CTGF or a functional equivalent thereof, exposing the cell type to the test compound; subsequently or simultaneously exposing the cell type to the CTGF or functional equivalent thereof; detecting and/or measuring the expression of Smad-7 and TIEG; and comparing the amount of Smad-7 and/or TIEG expressed in the presence of the test compound with the amount of Smad-7 and/or TIEG produced detected and/or measured in the absence of a test compound; determining if a compound reduces and/or prevents fibrosis on the basis that it causes no change or an increase in Smad-7 expression and/or no change or a decrease in TIEG expression. There is also provided compounds for reducing and/or preventing fibrosis and uses of such compounds.

